

Governor's Commission for a Drug-Free Indiana
January 18, 2006
Minutes

Commission members in attendance: Ryan McCann, Mike Cunegin, Jeff Barber, Bill McCormick, John von Arx, Senator Dennis Kruse, Dr. Wyatt Mullinax, Steve Clouse, Dr. Tim Kelly

Commission members absent: Melissa Long, Andrea Marshall, Paula Parker-Sawyers, Sheriff Mark Frisbie, Senator Rogers, Representative Smith, Representative Messer, James Lyons, Don Parker, Steve Camilleri

Indiana Criminal Justice Institute staff in attendance: Sonya Cleveland, Kate Gullans, Steve King, Amanda Thornton

Community Consultants in attendance: Kim Linkel, Lin Montgomery, Jen Bushore, Rebecca Smith

Special Guests in attendance: Colleen Copple, SAI

Meeting was called to order at 10:25 a.m. by Chairman von Arx.

For the meetings, we will make every effort to email documents prior to the meetings. Consensus is that it is helpful to use email rather than using postage whenever possible.

Discussions was held and it was determined that it would helpful if binders remain at CJI and updated materials added before the meeting.

Senator Kruse recommended having all audience members introduce themselves. Commission members agreed and all those in the audience introduced themselves. A sign in sheet was passed among the visitors along with the option to indicate on the sign in sheet if someone wants to address the Commission.

Mike Cunegin shared information about a town hall meeting that will take place in Allen County regarding methamphetamine awareness and education. They saw their first lab in the last few months. In his experience as a police officer and city council member, he saw a need to be proactive in the fight against drugs. The general public is unaware of the problem but need to be informed of the dangers. Mike is working with a group to put together a program sometime in March. It will include experts on the subject.

Chairman von Arx shared a program he saw on MSN called "Victims of Methamphetamine." It showed the impact methamphetamine labs have in a community including home buyers, police departments, children, etc. He is going to try to find a link to it or get a copy of the program to share.

Chairman von Arx state it would be helpful to Sonya if everyone would RSVP attendance before the meeting to ensure a quorum.

Chairman von Arx introduced Colleen Copple. She and her husband, Jim, own Strategic Applications International, and have conducted methamphetamine strategic planning in 25 states. They have been contracted with Indiana Criminal Justice Institute to provide direction and expertise in the development of the methamphetamine strategic plan. Colleen presented an overview of the methamphetamine strategic plan strategy. She stated by bringing Meth Free Indiana Coalition, Governor's Commission for a Drug Free Indiana and the SPF-SIG together, we will bring issues together in a comprehensive way that is not happening to this degree in any other state. Colleen tries to bring attention to overall drug issues not just meth. There are some

issues unique to meth but when it comes to bringing folks together, it is helpful to look at the larger issues surrounding drug use. It is important to increase community capacity to address problems. Colleen will be working on action steps to assist in continued movement for the Meth Free Coalition. The goal will be a very useful strategic plan that provides a clear roadmap for the future. The Strategic Planning sub-committee will participate in the planning process. Colleen plans to have a draft by early March. The hope is by April or May we will be ready to promote the strategic plan. There will be questions coming to all Commission members to consider via email.

Approval of Minutes

Mike Cunegin moved to approve minutes as submitted. Motion seconded by Jeff Barber. Motion passed.

Role of the Commission

Chairman von Arx discussed the Interagency Council on Drugs. The Interagency Council on Drugs is in the statute under the Commission, responsible for bring collaboration at the state level. This group has been for the most part nonexistent for the last few years. Because this group is in the statute and there is a need for collaboration, the Meth Free Indiana Coalition will serve as the Interagency Council on Drugs, at the direction of the Governor's office.

Committee Reports

Policy/Operations; Bill McCormick

The discussion at the committee meeting was on how to increase involvement of meth related efforts in their plans. A policy statement will be developed and presented to Commission on how to increase involvement of meth related efforts in local coordinating. First interest of this committee is to get HB 1249 bill passed.

Legislation; Steve Clouse

Chairman von Arx would like to have more of a link between Meth Free Indiana and the Commission on legislation this session. Steve Clouse reported on HB 1249. This bill will increase accountability of local coordinating councils and provide definitions for prevention and criminal justice. Steve also shared HB 1049, which expands the definition of family housing complex in regards to drug sales. It will help increase the charges for those who use hotels, motels, etc. to sell drugs. Bill McCormick made motion for the Commission to support bill 1049. Mike Cunegin seconded. Motion passed.

Chairman von Arx asked Steve King to report on legislation that is being worked on through Drug & Crime Control. He shared information about bill authored by Senator Ron Alting (SB 129). This bill would make it a crime to use illegal substances while pregnant. Senate bill 193 is clean up language for bill 444 from last year. The intent is to make the language in SEA 444 more clear. Two amendments will include information about requirements for reporting and make meth a stand alone charge for better tracking of charges. Currently, methamphetamine is included with other illegal substances. Steve King shared other useful resources for the Commission, including an article on meth's effect on emergency rooms and federal legislation on meth.

Youth; Andrea Marshall

Jen Bushore shared information about what is going on for youth throughout the state. She shared information on CJI programs including Youth Legislative Day and Middle School Youth Summit, as well as information about SADD and Pride conferences.

Communications; Melissa Long

Melissa Long was not able to attend.

SPF-SIG; Mark Frisbie

Mark Frisbie called into the meeting to update on the progress of SFP. Mark, along with John von Arx and Sonya Cleveland, have been working to bring everyone together to ensure collaboration. There is still work to be done to bring FSSA and the Commission together. Sonya shared that the Governor did make his appointments to the SPF-SIG advisory council. The Commission has four representatives on the SPF-SIG Advisory Council. The EPI Work Group has not yet met but they will be doing so in the next month. They are inviting people to be part of the EPI Work Group. Sonya and Kate did attend the training in Washington D.C. to learn the process and SAMHSA's expectations. Sonya stated that we are on target with other states who have received these dollars. Mark shared that when he spoke to Charles Curie, SAMHSA, we are moving along at a good pace. A small, executive committee has been established to ensure the grant procedures are moving forward.

Meth Free Indiana; John von Arx

Steve King shared that the last meeting focused on what they will do with information shared from Midwestern Governor's Meth Summit and a presentation on new Indiana State Police Meth Suppression Unit. Purdue Extension is working on a 7-minute safety video to use to train those who clean up highways.

Amanda Thornton passed out information regarding phase 1 findings from the Meth Data Repository. They are currently bringing all agency heads together to discuss how to gather their data base information. Amanda will keep the Commission up to date on progress. She requested the Commission contact her if there is something they are currently missing as a source of information. They are getting ready to finish up phase 1 so they need to get everyone on board before they move forward.

Strategic Planning; Dr. Tim Kelly

Dr. Kelly shared when the committee last met they were trying to figure out how to improve communication with local coordinating councils. He was impressed by the region that came and shared in November. They showed enthusiasm and passion for their work. Dr. Kelly would like to know what best practices counties are using. He wants counties to feel like they have support from the Commission. He would like to develop a ranking of counties based on how well the local coordinating councils are functioning. By seeing how counties are doing, there would be a way to increase the abilities of those who are struggling. Dr. Kelly would like to see that when this group leaves its watch the local coordinating councils feel they received support and accomplished more.

Commission Activity Report Annual Report

Sonya put together an annual report of the Commission's efforts. The report includes an update of each area of responsibilities of the Commission. Efforts now need to be put forth to ensure fees are being assessed properly as well as collected. The commission is meeting with Indiana Judicial Center to develop a plan to educate judges on the fees and how they are used in the communities. Sonya shared answers to the questions that John posed to the local coordinating councils who attended the November meeting. She will email the information to everyone.

Community Consultant Regional Reports

Community Consultants and LCCs will get an opportunity to present at scheduled meetings so Commission members can hear about what is going on around the state.

There was a discussion on how to move communities into measuring their outcomes. Local coordinating councils are at different stages with regard to capacity and funding. We need to work to move local coordinating councils to the natural next step for them.

Randy Miller, Executive Director, Drug Free Marion County, shared that their next meeting will be televised in the Indianapolis area. Each grantee will share a report on their project.

Sonya announced that the February meeting is scheduled during the annual CADCA conference therefore she will not be in attendance.

At 1:12 p.m. with no other business to discuss, Chairman von Arx adjourned the meeting.